

Raccoon Creek Water Trail Association
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 7, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.
Uncle Buck's Dance Barn, New Marshfield, Ohio

7th Annual Float

- The float was a great time and great success.
- Special thanks to Glenn and Brett for all of their efforts!

Treasurer's Report

- Balance as of May 10th, \$402.46

Membership

- If you haven't done so, please pay your membership dues to Glenn soon!

Website Committee Report

- Suzanne got permission to post the Water Trails web link to Jim McCormick's blog on the Ohio Birder's website
- Michael Rigsby is interested in working on RCWTA website
- Hocking College students prepared the following:
 - A resource inventory with all county/local visitor bureau links
 - Several interviews
 - Other materials suitable for both a Newsletter and the website

Upcoming Events

1. Hocking College Outdoor Show in early October
 - We will be set up with 3-4 other water trail groups
 - We may be able to have boats there
2. July 12th, 6 p.m., our next meeting, bring a friend. Cookout & pot luck, canoe rodeo with prizes, meet at Lake Hope shelter house. Glenn will reserve the location.
3. Pawpaw Pick-n-Paddle in September (publicize at Pawpaw Festival). Our goal is \$200 in fruits.
4. Nelsonville music festival, July 14th, booth/display
5. We will discuss tabling at County Fairs at the next meeting.

Ownership of Vinton Soil & Water boats

- If the Raccoon Creek Partnership (RCP) assumes ownership the boats will have to be licensed. \$15/3 years/boat
- Molly's meeting with Vinton Soil & Water to discuss
- Important issues
 - Storage (Vinton County S & W, Waterloo?)
 - Purchasing event (medical coverage) insurance is an inexpensive option, \$.25 up to \$10,000
 - Safety Planning, who can use the boats, where they can be used, etc.

- Liabilities
 - If we do not charge for boat use, we may be covered per the Recreation Statute
- Division of Wildlife may assume ownership

Relationship between RCWTA and RCP

- Molly attended last RCP Board meeting
- RCP could provide us with a tax benefit and serve as signatories
- Becoming a 501c3 is a lengthy process, the RCP took 2 years to create bylaws, pay fees, complete all legal portions of the 501c3
- RCP is going to sign a lease for the Waterloo headquarters. This could provide us with a meeting space, boat storage location, and water body for events.
- We could share a display.

Moonville Rail Trail Collaboration

- Brian Blair was present representing the Moonville Rail Trails.
- They are a 501c3 and have received grants through Clean Ohio
- They've purchased a section from Austin Powder to Mineral
- Vinton County section is property of County Commissioners, Athens County is the same
- Their next step is bridge building. DOT funded bridges have to be designed for safety and have to handle an ambulance 10 feet wide and withstand 10,000 pounds.
- Recycling materials within a county is ideal. Approaching a motivated county engineer could be successful.
- Crystal Ratliff is the contact, secretary & membership person

Inventory Committee Update

- Next step, list of landowners from Gallia Co. Working on access points.
- Vinton is done.
- Before we can apply for water trail designation, we have to have names of landowners and agreements from them, a minimum of every 10 miles.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, July 12th, 6:30 p.m.

Lake Hope Shelter House

Bring a friend and a dish to share.

We hope to offer a canoe rodeo with prizes!!!